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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

winning ways

In Memory of **Gloria E. Peters**

July 30, 1929 - December 29, 2004

Founding and Charter Member of Women in Numismatics

Editor of Winning Ways for 10 years

We will miss her...

Story on pages 4 & 5

WIN
WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Prue Fitts

By now, our part of the country will be seeing the ground again and the promise of spring really coming. Our organization has been doing exciting things as well. As you see from our cover article, we are celebrating one of the most influential women in numismatics and one of our own pioneers. Gloria Peters was extraordinary for her role in the numismatic business, a gifted writer and editor and a true friend and mentor. She is sorely missed. In her honor, it was proposed and seconded that we contribute to the Gloria Peters Restoration Fund at the ANA Library. This Fund was one of her great interests. Individual members have also contributed to this. Our WIN Literary Award has been re-named in her honor and will now be called the Gloria Peters Literary Award. By doing this, we recognize all she did for us and for WINNING WAYS. The first recipient is Sherry Briggs for her first article in a series "The Penny: Coin for the Ages" which appeared in the April 2004 issue.

At the General Meeting in January at FUN, the membership voted to have a directory which will be available to members only. In this issue, you will find a form to fill out. Your name, address, phone, e-mail and collecting interest are the only areas which will be published (and you can choose to list only those parts you wish to have published). The directory will allow us to network with each other in clubs or by e-mail. The bottom part is for board use only to identify those members who would like to be more involved in the organization and will not be published.

There wass no General meeting at the ANA show in Kansas City in April but we will have a General Meeting at Central States in Saint Louis. Our Vice President has booked our meeting for 9:00 am on Saturday, May 7, 2005. Cindy Grellman, our Treasurer will be the speaker. Be sure to check your program for location. We will also meet at the ANA summer show in San Francisco on Saturday July 30 at 9:00 am. This is a different city than announced last year so be sure to check on our meeting room.

FUN was fun. Members Carrie Best was elected President of FUN; Cindy Grellman won the Prestigious AWARD OF MERIT and Rollie Finner, husband of Patti, won Best in Show for "North American Medals, 1925". Congratulations also to Patricia Bethe, Marlena Wald and Susan Zarit for winning WIN scholarships to the ANA Summer Session. Carol Morrow is the alternate in case any of the above cannot go.

Welcome another President - Lila Anderson who has been installed as President of the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA). Her article on "Launching the Quarter" appears in this issue.

We know that our spring and summers are coming each year. It must have seemed like a miracle for the ancient peoples who had no way of counting seasons or any intellectual reassurance that they would be repeated. Another way that our modern information is a bonus!

See you at Central States

Prue
WINPRUE@aol.com

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WIN Meeting

Place: **Central States Numismatic Society**
Date: **Saturday July 30, 2005**
Speaker: Cindy Grellman
Subject: To Be Announced
Time: **9:00 AM**
Join us for coffee!

WIN Scholarship Winners

There were eight (8) entries for this prestigious honor. The eight entries sent a letter to Jim Best, Winning Ways editor, stating why they wanted to attend the ANA Summer Seminar. The eight members were: Patricia Bethe, Susan Zarit, Debbie Williams, Marianne Musella, Katie Henrich, Carol Morrow, Susan Billings, and Marlena Wald. At the WIN meeting during the FUN show, three names were drawn and a fourth for runner-up, in case one of the three were unable to attend.

The three winners were:
1. Susan Zarit
2. Patricia Bethe
3. Marlena Wald
4. Runner up - Carol Morrow

Three of these members will be attending the ANA Summer Seminar 2005.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Gloria E. Peters

July 30, 1929 - December 29, 2004

The Beginning of Collecting....

Always interested in most collectibles, Gloria E. Peters was only a casual pocket change coin collector until the late 1970's when the Hunt Brothers tried to corner the silver market. While silver was doubling and tripling, Gloria began to buy (and sell) bulk bags of silver coins. It was an exciting time. She and her partner Cindy began to hang out at the local coin shops and inevitably began buying collectible coins with the profit from the silver bags. Bid Boards and other customers were a source of information and education. Howard Ruff, with stored food and gold and silver recommendations, was also a popular figure; and influenced Gloria's early coin purchases. David Hall contributed his part to her early collecting with rarity estimates for U.S. coins published in his newsletters.

Inevitably the silver bubble collapsed; but Gloria was hooked on coin collecting. She and her partner had accumulated a fair number of high-end type coins, silver dollars and gold when they attended their first coin show at Long Beach, CA. Gloria worked from a shopping list she had prepared from her own research and David Hall's recommendations. At the same time she had some coins she wanted to sell or trade in order to upgrade to better dates.

Discovering the mistakes....

You can guess what happened. Many of the coins she had bought earlier were downgraded by the bourse dealers with heavy losses in estimated value. One particularly lovely coin was a Barber quarter with gorgeous toning and luster which turned out to have a patch of hairlines in the field—cruelly described by one dealer as a "problem" coin. Naturally, being novices, Gloria and her partner had not even seen the hairlines! A collector and/or dealer can always remember the very first day that they actually see hairlines!

At first hurt and angry, Gloria and partner stomped out of the show, complaining about fraud and misrepresentation. Before they reached the parking lot, common sense had set in. The coins may have been misrepresented; but it was obvious to Gloria that anyone who wanted to collect coins needed to have an education before they buy coins. Most certainly the minimum education a coin collector needed was the ability to grade his or her own coins.

The Remedy....

Gloria moved immediately to remedy her ignorance about coin rarities and grading. She joined the American Numismatic Association, attended summer seminars, went to every coin show within reasonable distance and did major research on U.S. coin series. She subscribed to Coin World and Numismatic News. Using the Red Book mintage figures, Gloria did vast amounts of research with comparative lists and charts. Grading abilities developed as Gloria and her partner would go to every auction and look at every coin. By constant exposure and feedback from truly helpful dealers Gloria developed phenomenal grading abilities; and good knowledge of series rarity.

P&M Rare Coins is started...
Buying and selling coins without a bourse table continued to prove to be difficult; so in 1986 Gloria applied for her first table at Long Beach Coin and Collectibles Show. P&M Rare Coins (which is the last initial of each of the partners Peters and Mohon) was formally in business. Teresa Darling and Helen Carmody helped P&M to get a table.

Before Numismatics....

Gloria was born Gloria E. Linsday in 7/30/1929 in Santa Ana, CA. In 1949 she married Henry Luther Peters, who served as a Master Gunnery Sergeant in the Marines; and they had two boys before divorcing in 1963. Gloria came back to Orange County and worked for Probation and later Social Services as a Senior Group Counselor. She completed her BA in Psychology/Sociology from Chapman University in Orange, CA. Her job was to assure humane and helpful care for

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Gloria E. Peters

(continued from page 4)

the minors who came into custody either due to abuse and neglect or their own antisocial behavior. She supervised a large number of group counselors and was an expert in institutional care for minors. One of Gloria's favorite jobs was working for a revolutionary new treatment facility called Orange County's Youth Guidance Center.

She had a need to keep herself busy after her younger son, Kirk (then age 18) was killed in January 1976 in an auto accident. Her older son, Monte Peters, was doing well—having completed his university degree. Gloria retained her day job for the County in the beginning years of her coin business. After 4 years P&M Rare Coins began to really grow as a business. Gloria retired from the County in 1990 after 26 years of service for the County in order to work the coin business full time.

The Complete Guide to Shield and Liberty Head Nickels...

David Lawrence contacted Gloria and Cindy in 1993 to ask if they would be interested in writing a book about Shield and Liberty Head Nickels. The result, after two years of research and writing, was The Complete Guide to Shield and Liberty Head Nickels published by DLRC Press in 1995. This book won The NLG Extraordinary Merit Award in August 1996. One of the great things that happened as a result of the book was that a customer financed Gloria's trip to New York to witness the auction of the Eliasberg 1913 Liberty Head nickel.

The ANA Library Book Restoration Fund...

In researching the coin book, Gloria was able to gather good information from the books from the ANA Library. She noticed that many of the rare and irreplaceable books were in severely deteriorated condition. She campaigned with Patti Finner to encourage WIN to develop a fund for book restoration for ANA. With the increased publicity, this idea caught on and WIN, as well as other donors, has supported book restoration for the library.

Serving the hobby as a club member and club officer...

Gloria was a member of many numismatic clubs and organizations, including the ANA, Society for U.S. Commemorative Coins, Central States Numismatic Association, Florida United Numismatists, Michigan State Numismatics Society, Women in Numismatics, NLG and California clubs. She was a charter member of Women In Numismatics and served as Editor for Winning Ways until her declining health forced her to give up the office. Gloria also served as Typesetter for TENNCOIN, Tennessee State's publication. Gloria has had a number of awards including a Presidential Award from ANA in August 1998 and the WIN Literary Award for her articles "Marketing the Stone Mountain—the Special Coins and Medals."

Gloria was a unique individual with ethics blended well with business sense. She was a person of strong opinions and enthusiastic beliefs. She lived with an energy and zest rarely matched by any other person. She loved the hunt for beautiful coins and could negotiate prices with the best of the dealers. She frequently spoke of male dealers—saying they had always been ready to help, mentor and encourage her. She felt most women were too fearful to learn what they needed to know in order to deal coins; and she believed education could solve that problem.

We will miss her...

She suffered a crippling hemorraghic stroke while at the Santa Clara Coin and Collectibles Show in November 2003. With the great courage and strength that she exemplified, she fought back against the damage she had suffered, slowly regaining the ability to swallow, stand and walk. P&M Rare Coins business was suspended for her recovery period. On December 13, 2004, Gloria suffered two more massive hemorraghic strokes. She died in the serenity of her own home on 12/29/04. She is survived by Barbara Bradfield (sister), Patricia Rhodes (sister), Monte Peters (son—of whom she is very proud), Kathleen Kennedy Peters (daughter-in-law—whom she dearly loved), Abigail Peters (4 year old granddaughter—the light of her heart) and Cindy Mohon (partner)—as well as numerous nieces and nephews.. Gloria was interred at Fairhaven Cemetery in Santa Ana at 2:30 PM on Saturday, January 8. A memorial service was held at a later date at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at Yale and Irvine Center Drive, in Irvine, CA.

In lieu of flowers the family requested that contributions be sent to the ANA Book Restoration Fund in honor of Gloria E. Peters.

CSNS Money Hunt

TO ALL YOUNG COLLECTORS—You are invited to join us in the first Central States Numismatic Society's Money Hunt at the 66th CSNS Convention in St. Louis, Missouri. Starting at 12:00 noon on Saturday May 7, 2005, anyone age 17 and younger attending the CSNS Convention can participate in an exciting new program for young people. Hunt through the maze of dealers' tables for clues that will uncover mysterious coins. Enter a drawing to win valuable prizes by completing the Money Hunt. Get lots of free goodies just for participating and have an awesome day!! For more Info contact Katie Heinrich at khcoins@fuse.net or PO Box 446, Miamitown, OH 45041.

Thanks again,

Katie Heinrich, Member # 229

You are important to the coin hobby today

By, Rita Jene Sledz

Now that the coin show season's begun
it's time to get out there and have some fun.
Support the dealers at your local show
most will explain things you want to know.

You are important to the hobby today.
Encourage others by what you do and say.
Tell others the hobby is for young and old
and welcome collectors into the fold.
Tell them their time will be well spent
that they may collect to their hearts content.

So come on out - bring a friend to two.
The numismatic world is waiting for you!!

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Copy must be received by the following deadlines:

February 15.....April Issue
June 2.....August Issue
November 1.....January Issue

A REMARKABLE DAY IN SACRAMENTO

JANUARY 31, 2005

BY LILA ANDERSON

While I was on the fourth floor of the State Archives waiting to see Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and First Lady of California Maria Schriver, my husband, Joel, was on the first floor waiting to purchase quarter rolls. On that crisp, chilly, January, the 31st, the line for State Quarters was twisting and turning to outside the building and around the block. The line continued to wind within the first floor of the Archives and out through the courtyard portal. Once outside in the courtyard the line continued churning through. It was similar to lines for the Indiana Jones Attraction during peak tourist season at Disneyland!

The workers at this event were capable of moving the tremendous multitude through to the quarter sales tables so effortlessly that no one was discouraged from buying the quarters. 200,000 quarters were trucked into the State Archives for the launch. The price was right: a ten dollar bill would buy you a mint roll of California Denver Mint Quarters and each person in line was allowed to buy up to a total of five rolls ($50.00-worth). The Director of the U. S. Mint and the Director of Sales for the Mint were on the premises. They were allowing the coin collectors' questions, granting their autographs, giving interviews with reporters, being available for photographic requests, all with the expertise of two who had already launched thirty previous well-received State Quarters. The Director, Henrietta Holsman Fore, was especially proud of her connection to California, being a California native herself. She was a crowd pleaser. Gloria Eskridge, the Mint Sales Director, handled the throng of merry Californians with charming gracefulness. As Directors they make up a terrific team.

Garrett (designer of California Quarter) and Michelle Burke and Katie Burke were the true troopers of this event. Situated in the draftiest corridor of the Courtyard where they very kindly signed their autographs for a line even more exuberant than the one for the quarter rolls, they embodied the best spirit of the numismatist in action. Needless to say they were pumped. Even that cold day couldn't stop them from spreading their generous wealth of enthusiasm for our shared hobby! They signed for everybody who lined up, no exceptions.

Earlier in the day, on the fourth floor of this same building, a small group of us had been to see the Governor. Those in attendance, mostly media, a cluster of about fifty school children from a Sacramento school (who were given seats inside of the stage area), some of the folk on the quarter design selection committee, as well as representatives of conservation groups such as The Sierra Club, numismatic organizations, Yosemite National Park rangers (wearing their uniforms), two of John Muir's grandsons, and selected honored educators who had been personally chosen by First Lady Maria Shriver.

Thanks mostly to Mr. Jim Hunt who secured the CSNA contingent the front row seats, we numismatists were able to actually have somewhat of a conversation with the Governor and the First Lady after the First Lady's and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's introduction of the California State Quarter. Ms. Shriver is an eloquent presenter, as is the Governor, and they sparkled during a question and answer session with the school children. We discovered that the First Lady, Maria, is a coin collector from way back and is, in fact, great with coin trivia, put to use to "test" the coin collecting knowledge of the school children assembled there. The children were “naturals” answering the questions put to them with enthusiasm. Perhaps they are numismatists in the making. They certainly will have something to tell their children some day.

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A REMARKABLE DAY IN SACRAMENTO

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I have something to tell my daughter Grace, who was so tickled that I had been invited to meet the Governor, and especially this particular Governor. From Colorado Springs, at the Air Force Academy, she was so moved to phone me three times that day, to check up on me, to make sure my heart was still beating. Which brings me to Governor Schwarzenegger. The man is definitely of superhero stature. I am actually surprised my heart continues to be beating. It is only due to the attentiveness of the other numismatists present that I am not connected to a defibulator after being near California's Governor. The numismatists: Jim Hunt, Michael S. Turrini, G. Lee Kuntz, and Greg Burns made sure that I didn't drop to the floor! Another numismatist, Sally Johnson of San Jose Coin Club was in the next row not safe either from the effects of being in the Governator's presence.

Yes, this was my amazing day in Sacramento. The launch was noon, January 31, 2005 for the 31st U.S. State Quarter: the California Quarter, the first one on the West Coast!

Know that all you of WIN were in my heart while I was visiting with the Governor and First Lady of California.

March 11, 2004

To Whom it May concern:

My name is Teresa Mays. I am a coin collector/and novice dealer in Grand Junction, Colorado where I work with my father at our coin shop. We own International Coin & Stamp, Inc.

I was not always a collector. In 1995, I moved to Grand Junction to complete my college education. At the time, my father was working alone and I offered to work around the shop to pay some expenses. After graduating and spending some time in the human services field, I felt I would be more satisfied working with my dad and helping him. In July of 1999, I began my career at the coin shop. Soon after, my father had a stroke and was hospitalized for several months. I kept the coin shop going by reading everything I could get my hands on that pertained to coins, currency, bullion, etc. In addition, I took coins to my father and he would grade them at night from his hospital bed. I realized that I needed to learn many skills if I(ever took over the business). By the way, he recovered and is back at work on a part time basis.

I had to learn a lot in order to keep the business out of the red. In addition to his mentorship, I have benefited by the experience and knowledge of our customers and other dealers. I also have a great deal of gratitude to the American Numismatic Association for the information they provide via their website, the Numismatist, and their summer seminars. Last year I enrolled in the beginning grading class, this year I am enrolled in the counterfeit detection class. It is through them that I learned about your professional organization.

Over the years, I have developed a great love for numismatics. What began as an attempt to reduce my father's workload has turned into a wonderful experience and career for me.

I hope you will accept my application. I look forward to belonging to an organization that celebrates and promotes the study of numismatics by the female members of the collecting society.

Thank you,

Teresa M. Mays

"Home or Hell in Half an Hour"

Favorite American Coins from my Collection

By David Wray

PART I

Coin Collecting is a very personal activity. To me, coins are artifacts that help bring me in touch with the reality, perhaps even the feelings, of people during historical events. I collect coins and artifacts from many times and many places, but my American collection is perhaps my most personal because I relate the coins to the experiences of my family in this country through the centuries.

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY FAMILY HISTORY

I have many ancestors who came to North America from England and the Netherlands in the seventeenth century. Perhaps the earliest of these direct ancestors was Henery Williams who came to Jamestown, Virginia, on the ship, Treasurer, in 1613. His wife, Susan, arrived on the ship, William and Thomas, in 1618. Unfortunately, my connection to Henery and Susan is not proven.

However, I have a proven connection with the Griggs family of Suffolk County, England, members of which came to America in at least two places in the seventeenth century, Massachusetts, and Virginia. This Griggs family derived from the Scottish Clan MacGregor. Our family bible, with entries dating from 1733, shows the name written as Grigg, Griggs, and McGrigg.

Thomas Griggs came from England to settle in Roxbury, Massachusetts in the spring of 1639. Mary Griggs, the wife of Thomas, died within months of arriving and is buried in the old Roxbury burying ground. Thomas died in 1646. Perhaps the whole family came to Massachusetts as indentured servents. Joseph, the son of Thomas didn't become a freeman until 1653.

I'm a direct descendent of an indentured servant named William Griggs who arrived in Virginia in 1660. A man named Thomas Liggon paid passage for my tenth great-grandfather, William Griggs (along with fifteen other people), to Charles City County, Virginia.

The London Company, proprietors of the Virginia Colony, gave fifty acres of new land free to each person who would settle there, but passage on a ship to North America still cost six or seven pounds (120-140 shillings, 1,440-1,680 pence). This price was completely out of reach of most people. Under the indenture system, a wealthy planter in Virginia could pay the passage of a new immigrant, and receive his fifty acres plus a number of years labor, usually four years. So, 140 shillings bought 50 acres of land and one person's work for four years!

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY COINS

I possess two examples of money from these times, an Oak Tree Shilling (figure 1) and a Pine Tree Sixpence (figure 2).

Figure 1. 1652 Oak Tree Shilling (Noe 12)

Figure 2. 1652 Pine Tree Xixpence (Noe 33)

The Oak Tree Shilling was minted in Massachusetts sometime between 1660 and 1667. It's dated 1652, as are all Oak Tree Shillings. This probably represents the date the coinage was authorized (Massachusetts Bay Mint Act, May 27, 1652). Massachusetts assumed the right to mint coinage during the Puritan Revolution in England, a period of political confusion. This is an ugly, but rare coin. All the coins of this die variety (Noe 12) are poorly struck.

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"Home or Hell in Half an Hour"

Favorite American Coins from my Collection

By David Wray

PART I

(continued from page 9)

My Pine Tree Sixpence was minted sometime between 1667 and 1682, but also is dated 1652. There was a gradual transition for the Oak Tree to the Pine Tree, and many more Pine Tree coins were minted than Oak Tree coins. Even though Massachusetts silver coinage contained aproximately 22 % less silver than British silver coins, Massachusetts coinage initially traded equivalent to British coinage.

Just to remind you what was going on in England around this time, this was a century of:

- **WAR**
  - Thirty-Years War between Protestants and Catholics
  - Three wars with Netherlands
  - Wars with Spain and France
  - Rebellions in Scotland and Ireland
  - The Puritan Revolution, first with Scots allied with Puritans, then with Scots fighting against Puritans
- **POLITICAL TURMOIL**
  - Guy Fawkes attempted to blow up Parliament in the Gunpowder Plot
  - On several occasions Parliament was dissolved or cleansed of certain members
  - King Charles I was executed
  - When Puritans ruled they based policy on religious zealotry rather than on public welfare
  - The monarchy was restored, contested, and even contested again
- **PLAGUE AND A GREAT FIRE IN LONDON**
- **GREAT POVERTY AND HARDSHIP**

However it also was a century of:

- **EXPLORATION AND COLONIZATION**
  - The founding of Jamestown
  - The Mayflower came to Plymouth
  - Hudson Bay was discovered
- **CHARTERING OF GREAT INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES:**
  - East India Company
  - Hudson Bay company
  - London Company

All in all, it was a good century to come to the New World.

Editors note: This will be a three part series. Part two will be published in the August issue of Winning Ways.

The Information Highway in Ancient Times

By Prue Fitts - Part I

The information highway - ahh - the pixels - the fiber optics and light pulses - the milleseconds which make a cup of statistics shared effortlessly and instantly from New Delhi to New York; from Athens, Greece to Athens, Georgia. The term is newly minted BUT the exchange over great distances is as old as a man (or woman) putting one foot in front of the other to see what is over the mountain.

Without doubt the longest continuous land route was the Silk Road. It stretched from China in Ch'ang-an (modern day Xian) to the eastern Mediterranean world, ending at Antioch and Tyre. It ran for five thousand miles through deserts, steppes, and over and around mountains so tall they scraped the skies. These routes went either side of the Taklamakan Desert (literally means: if you go in, you won't come out!) whose climate ranged from paralizing cold to lung-searing heat. The roads threaded to the north below the Gobi desert of Inner Mongolia and joined up with the southern route near Dunhuang.

Photo 1 - MAP

The development of the route began with the travels of a young Chinese, Chang Ch'ien sent by his Emperor Wu-ti (aka the Son of Heaven) in 138 B.C.E. to locate a fierce Central Asiatic people, the Yueh-Chih, as an ally against the Hsiung-nu tribes (later called the Huns) who were raiding China. The Great Wall had been built almost a hundred years before[1] to keep them out but it was not entirely successful. Ch'ien was captured going through enemy territory but managed to escape and find the Yueh-chih, still carrying his ambassadorial talisman, the Emperor's yak tail. These legendry wild warriors said to drink from the skulls of their enemies, had become fat and happy during the ensuing years and were no longer interested in warring. By the time Ch'ien returned home (a thirteen year round trip) he had been captured and escaped again and had lost 98 of the original 100 in his party.

He brought no alliance but he had vital information about the economic, military, political and geographical territories of the kingdoms now in Soviet Central Asia - Saarland, Bokaro, Ferghana and Balkh (in northern Afghanistan). He told legends of far off places - Persia and Li-jien (which we now believe was Rome). Of greatest significance was discovering a larger and more powerful war-horse, allegedly bred from heavenly' stock (**photo #2**) owned by the Ferghana. The Emperor finally succeeded in getting a starter herd. [2]

There was not just one Silk Road but a network of a routes which made up this transportation system and its cargo was much more than just silk. Starting in present day Xian (then called Chang-an), it went through the Kansu corridor to the oasis of Dun-huang in the Gobi Desert. It then divided to avoid the Taklamakan Desert described in later year as "the worst and most dangerous desert in the world'; 'a Land of Death'. Not only were the climatic changes a danger but the Kara-buran or unpredictable "black hurricane, forced travelers to

Photo #2 - War Horse"

[1] In 221 B.C.E. by Emperor Shi Huang-ti

[2] Now extinct by immortalized by Han and T'ang sculptors. This is 2nd C CE, bronze.

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The Information Highway in Ancient Times

By Prue Fitts

(continued from page 11)

bury themselves in layers of felts for many hours as the storm raged overhead. The numbers of travelers and caravans lost are incalculable.

The route would never have been developed had it not been for oases which were no more than a few days march from each other. They became important trading centers as caravans stopped, refreshed, regrouped and changed pack animals. No one caravan went the entire distance. The larger centers became mini-kingdoms with overlords who demanded tribute for safe passage. Control of the routes bobbled from the Chinese to the barbarian tribes and back again.

What made the dangers worth the risk? Silk was definitely high on the list. The Romans went crazy for it. When the army Marcus Licinius Crassus pursued the Parthians across the Euphrates in 53 B.C.E., they were startled by savage war-cries and the waving of great banners of "translucent as ice" clouds in the sunlight. Terrified but intrigued, the Romans fled. Soon their intelligence tracked down the fabric which the Chinese had traded in Parthia for ostrich eggs and conjurers.

Silk was so popular that within four decades, Tiberius believing it to represent decadence, banned Roman men from wearing even the smallest patches of it. Pliny disparaged it blaming the women for wrecking the economy with their insatiable appetite for the fabric which left them looking naked. It was so expensive by the 4th Century that it was exchanged for its weight in gold. Gold itself was carried East along with metals, linen and wool textiles, ivory amber and glass (not manufactured in China until the 5th Century). These were exchanged for furs, lacquer, bronze items in the form of belt buckles and weapons, ceramics and iron. Many of these items were sold along the way, or bartered for other materials.

And what about coinage? It moved along the road as well. Coins reached Central Asia and China through the merchant activity of the road and were also brought by missionaries and pilgrims who traveled back and forth to India. They provided important information about language and religion, the people who brought them there, as well as indicating the economic condition by their weight and their metallic composition.

Since its invention in the 7th Century, B.C.E. coinage had become important in the system purchasing and selling. Barter of course still remained but coinage was more practical than an iron spit or a cow for exchange of goods. Coins were saved, hoarded in times of trouble and used for religious offerings. They were used as jewelry, good luck pieces and tokens for the next life in burials. Locally produced coins were of debased silver or copper. Each political area fixed the value; thus going from one to another was confusing. Silver bullion exchanged by weight was accepted as was uncoined silver, both being measurable.

Foreign gold and silver coins were important during the 4-7th centuries. The Bysantine (Eastern Roman) Empire to the west saw the introduction of the Gold *Solidus* by Constantine the Great (313-364). Its weight was set at 4.5 gr and it circulated all over the world. **(Photo # 3)**.[3] A lighter weight *solidus* was issued by Justinian the Great (527-565) and may have been issued for international trade as hoards have been found beyond the Empire's boundaries. Coins were also copied.

Photo #3 - Solidus

In Western Asia and Iran the Sasanian Empire, while in conflict with the West, continued in trade and cultural exchange. The silver *drahm*, their main denomination was based on the Greek Attic weight standard of about 4 grams. It, too, like the *solidus* was stable through the centuries and because it never changed in weight or fineness, was ideal for international trade. The first ones which reached Xinjian were then those of Shapur I I who reigned from 309-379 CE but it was during the reign of the Emperor, Peroz [569-484] that the largest amount of Sasanian coinage reached China. They remained until early in the Tang period. Sasanian mints also issued copper coins for small change though not

[3] Gold solidus of Justinian I struck between 537 and 565. This was one of 5 coins found in the tomb of Tian Hong (d. 575) western suburbs of Ningxia. It has been clipped. There were 4 other coins which had been pierced indicating they were used for jewelry, one of which had been placed in the Emperor's mouth. This Greek practise of placing a coin on the eyes or in the nouth was to ensure payment for payment of the Charon, the ferryman who took the dead across the mythical river Styx and regardless of denomination is called "Charon's obol".

(continued on page 13)

in the same quantities as the Byzantines. **(PHOTO #4)**[4] Their gold coins were strictly ceremonial, the *dinar's* weight var-

The Information Highway in Ancient Times

By Prue Fitts

(continued from page 12)

in the same quantities as the Byzantines. **(PHOTO #4)**[4] Their gold coins were strictly ceremonial, the *dinar's* weight varied from 7 grams to approximately 4.25 grams. The obverse and the reverse of the gold coins is identical to the silver.

(PHOTO #4) - Dinar

[4]Silver *drachm* with the Emperor on the obverse and a typical zoroastrian fire altar on the reverse. Two attendanta are on each side raising their hands. There is a star in the left field and a crescent in the right.

Part II - continued in Winning Ways August 2005.

EDITORS NOTEBOOK

Carrie and I have just returned from the ANA National Money Show in Kansas City and a visit with her mother and two sisters and many other family members. This is where Carrie and I met over 30 years ago and the rest is history. The show was fairly active and dealers seemed to be doing good business, hope this market continues into the future.

The WIN board had a meeting while in Kansas City and many items were discussed, hopefully to make the organization stronger and more appealing to new members. One of the items discussed was the awarding of the WIN scholorship, see the changes in the scholarship article.

The next WIN membership meeting will be in conjunction with the Centarl States convention in St. Louis in early May. Don't forget the membership meeting on Saturday and renew old aquaintances and meet some of the new members. There will be a guest speaker and am sure the topic will be of interest. See you there.

Guess that is all for this time, "Meet you in St Louie, Louie, meet me at the Coin Show".

Jim

WIN Meeting

Place: **Central States Numismatic Society**
Date: **Saturday July 30, 2005** Time: **9:00 AM**
Speaker: Cindy Grellman
Subject: To Be Announced **Join us for coffee!**

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Arthur Fitts as **Vice President**

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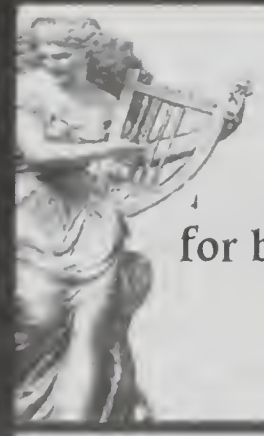

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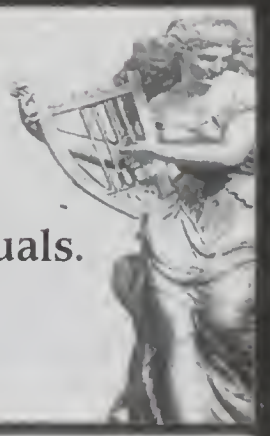

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From the Secretary's Desk

WIN meeting
Saturday January 15, 2005
9:00 AM
FUN Convention
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

President Prue Fitts absent - - meeting conducted by Vice President, Don Charters.

Meeting opened at 9:05 A.M.

Approximately 35 in attendance since some late comers did not use sign-in sheet.

Previous minutes of August 21, 2004 at ANA convention in Pittsburgh published in Winning Ways journal.

Treasurers report provided by Cindy Grellman with General Fund at $2100.89 and Shcolarship Fund at $3134.97.

Parliamentarian Patti Finner announced that the literary award now to be known as "The Gloria Peters Literary Award" as a memorial to our departed editor who gave so much to our organization. This years award went to Sherry Briggs for her article "The Penny - Coin for the Ages" in the Aprill 2004 Winning Ways issue.

Motion by Carol Morrow to donate $500 to the ANA Library book restoration fund - seconded by Pat Davis ---Approved by membership.

Motion by Patti Finner to endorse WIN members who are running for ANA governor i.e. Remy Bourne, Patti Finner, Arthur Fitts, Prue Fitts and Don Kagin. Seconded by Carrie Best ---motion carried.

Under discussion - a membership directory available to members only, Board to detail information sheet regarding list at Kansas City board meeting in April.

Dr. Don Kagin introduced as guest speaker by Don Charters, topic being "Rare Coins - A Girls Second Best Friend". The presentation was toward women as collectors. He said "People, especially women are intuitive and know if you are not being truthful to them. It's a dealers job to treat their customers with respect and courtesy and to always be above board in their dealings with everyone." His entire presentation was extraordinary with the question and answer session after, a highlight.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Carroll Campbell (photo - pg.16) of Littleton Publishing in the amount of $500 - the remainder going into our scholorship fund. Carroll donated $100 back to WIN. Thanks Carroll for your generous gift.

At this time drawings for the 2005 scholarship were made - winners:
1. Susan Zarit,
2. Patricia Bethe,
3. Marlena Wald,
alternate: Carol Morrow.

A wide selection of door prizes were provided by some individuals and dealers.

Meeting closed at 10:00 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Rita

Rita Jene Sledz
Secretary

Don Chartters & Don Kagin

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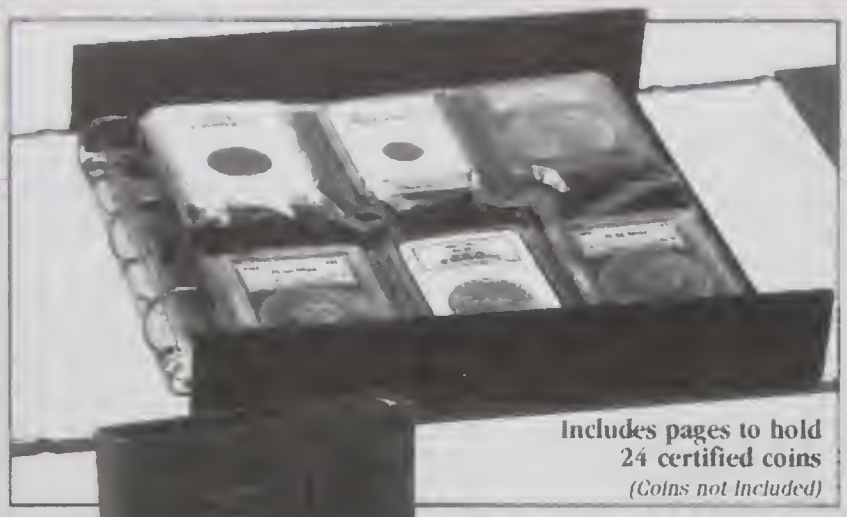

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Prue Morgan Fitts has announced her candidacy for the Board of Governors of the AMerican Numismatic Association.

WOMEN, WOMEN, WOMEN: I believe passionately in role of women in the hobby and will continue to work to increase the participation and numbers of this under-represented area.

LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN: I am impressed with the strides the current Board has achieved in terms of reaching out to the numismatic community and its neighbors. But I am sure that more can be done, particularly in continued flow of knowledge about the many facets in the hobby to attract new particlpants.

REVIEW, ANALYZE, AUGMENT: I believe that all areas of ANA involvement need an annual review. Programs need analysis. Some programs may have out lived their time and need to be dropped or reconfigures. New ideas need thoughtful consideration and input.

INDEPENDENT THINKER: I will bring a fresh perspective on current concerns of the membership to the Association and generate new strategies for memebership, particularly in the area of Women and Young Numismatists.

I am currently involved in many numismatic associations and clubs. I am recipient of: ANA Glen Smedley Award, Numismatic Ambassador Award, & ANA Presidential Award.

A VOTE FOR PRUE IS A VOTE FOR YOUR VOICE!

Paid for by the Committee to elect Prue Morgan Fitts to the ANA Board

Foreign Coin Quiz

1. During World War II, which country planned to issue coins made of baked clay?
   a. Nazi Germany b. Japan c. Italy d. Poland

2. Coins bearing the coat-of-arms of 14 Spanish and Portuguese countries were issued to commemorate which event?
   a. Barcelona Olympic Games b. Coronation of Juan Carlos II
   c. 500th Anniv. Discovery of America d. Year 2000 Millennium Celebration

3. How many mints were in operation in Anglo-Saxon England between 973 - 1066 A.D.?
   a. 0 b. 1 c. 25 d. 87

4. Australia's "Holey Dollar" was so named becausse of:
   a. Hole cut into it b. Mr Holey, its designer
   c. City where first issued d. One dollar = 10 holeys

5. The lowest denomination of copper coin minted in the Roman Empire was?
   a. Aureus b. Denarius c. Quadrans d. Sestertius

6. In 18th Century Montserrat, how many dogs equals 1 bit?
   a. 2 b.4 c. 6 d. 10

7. How much does the world's largest gold bullion coin (Austrian 1000,000 euros) weigh?
   a. 50 troy pounds b. 83 troy pounds c. 100 troy pouds d. 200 troy pounds

8. The Democratic Republic of Congo 10 francs 2004 coin (KM 155) is made of:
   a. Acrylic b. Ivory c. Porcelain d. Wood

(answers below)

New Members

Pat Ivey
Muriel Eymery
Lisa Roach
Teresa Mays

WELCOME TO WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

Coin Quiz Answers

1)B - Japan, 2)C - 500th Anniv. Discovery of America, 3)D - 87, 4)A - hole cut into it, 5)C - Quadrans, 6)C - 6, 7)B - 83 troy pounds, 8)A - Acrylic.

W.I.N. Scholarship Award

If you would like to apply for WIN's scholarship award to the ANA summer conference, now is the time! Deadline for applications is December 15. If you want to apply, you need to write a full page (200-250 word) essay including why you want to attend the conference, and your numismatic background to the editor. Also send a signed and dated disclaimer that you will not hold WIN responsible for loss or injury while attending or traveling to or from the conference. The winner(s) agrees to provide Winning Ways a report on your experience at the summer seminar, reasonable length suggested.

You must be a WIN member at least one year before applying, and be an active member such as writing articles for Winning Ways, serving on the board or directors, presenting a program at a WIN meeting, selling 50/50 tickets at a major show, or signing up at least 4 new members, within the past couple of years. Dues paid for the scholarship year must accompany the appication if not already paid. All dues must be received by Dec. 15.

WIN pays present ANA member tuition, and dormitory room and board for a double occupancy room. You are eligible if your WIN dues are paid and you have not won a scholarship in the last 5 years. The winning name will be drawn at the WIN meeting in conjunction with the FUN show in Orlando every January. You do not need to be present to win. We look forward to receiving your application SOON!!

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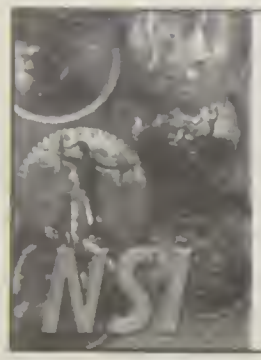

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